



JAMMU

@BJP4JKUT
J&K BJP Minority Morcha
Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, President J&K, BJP Minority Morcha, has extended his warm greetings and congratulations to the people of Jammu & Kashmir and the entire nation on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

@ImAnkittivari
Train No. 20433/34 (Jammu Mail) has been curtailed to Ambala Cantt for the past 6 months. Why has it still not been restored up to Jammu, while other trains are operating normally? This prolonged restriction is causing serious inconvenience to passengers. Kindly restore this train.

NORTH BANK:
On this day in 1945; Bulgaria and the Soviet Union successfully complete their Defence of the north bank of the Drava River.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA:
In the entire Anantnag district of Kashmir division, 3574 square kilometers is the total geographical area.

U-TURN PROHIBITED
This sign can be seen at some of the busy intersection on roads. The U turn at these intersections could result in major accidents or traffic jams. The driver should not violate this sign to avoid fine and any untoward incident.

Man held from Delhi after robbing electronics store
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Police have arrested a man accused in a theft case registered in Baramulla district from Delhi, officials said on Friday.

Rahil Ahmad Reshi was arrested by a team from Kunzer police station in Baramulla for allegedly robbing an electronic goods shop, a police spokesman said. Bilal Ahmad Bhat filed a complaint in Kunzer police station on March 9 that unknown persons had stolen 20 mobile phones, one laptop and Rs 5,000 in cash from his shop. Accordingly, a case was registered under relevant sections and investigation was initiated, the spokesman said.

War will have consequences on global economy: Dr Farooq

JAMMU: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Friday said that the war between Iran and the US-Israel coalition needs to come to an end quickly, as it could have massive repercussions for the global economy. "It (war) will have severe consequences not only for the Indian economy but for the world economy," Abdullah told reporters after offering Friday prayers at Hazratbal shrine here. The former chief minister highlighted the importance of ending the war due to the loss of innocent lives, saying, "We are praying that the Almighty delivers the Muslim world from the problems it is facing." In response to a question about the conflict, Abdullah mentioned that a "greater power" than US President Donald Trump would eventually step in to help resolve the situation in the Middle East.

Dy CM, Ministers greet people on Eid-ul-Fitr, Nauroz

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on Friday extended warm greetings to the people on the auspicious occasions of Eid-ul-Fitr and Nauroz. He said that both the festivals hold immense religious and cultural significance and reflect the rich composite heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Deputy Chief Minister extolled that Eid-ul-Fitr marks the culmination of holy month of Ramzan-ul-Mubarak, symbolising compassion, gratitude and generosity. He said that Nauroz, to be celebrated on March 21, heralds the arrival of spring and is observed with great religious as well as cultural fervour and joy.

Expressing hope on the sacred occasions, he prayed for the wellbeing, peace and prosperity of all. He urged the people to further strengthen the bonds of coexistence, harmony and brotherhood. He added that the people of Jammu and Kashmir have always set a shining example of unity, love and communal harmony, celebrating each other's festivals with great enthusiasm and mutual respect.

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Saakeena Itoo has extended warm greetings and heartfelt wishes to the people of Jam-



mu and Kashmir on the joyous occasions of Eid-ul-Fitr and Nauroz.

In her greetings, the Minister said that Eid-ul-Fitr symbolizes compassion, generosity and gratitude, marking the culmination of holy month of reflection, self-discipline and spiritual rejuvenation. She urged people to embrace the true spirit of the festival by strengthening bonds of brotherhood, extending support to the underprivileged and fostering unity within society.

While extending her greetings on Nauroz, the Minister noted that the festival represents renewal, hope and the arrival of spring, inspiring optimism and collective progress. She emphasized that such occasions remind society of shared traditions and values that promote inclusiveness and mutual respect.

The Minister also prayed for peace, progress and prosperity of entire Jammu and Kashmir. Minister for Food, Civil



Supplies & Consumer Affairs, IT, Transport, Youth Services & Sports and Science & Technology, Satish Sharma, today extended warm greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Eid.

In his message, the Minister conveyed sincere wishes for peace, prosperity and well-being of all citizens. He expressed hope that the sacred festival would bring immense joy, happiness and blessings to every household across Jammu and Kashmir.

Highlighting the spiritual and social significance of Eid, Satish Sharma said that the festival embodies the timeless values of compassion, generosity, sacrifice and brotherhood. He noted that Eid is an occasion to strengthen communal harmony and promote a sense of unity and mutual respect among people from all walks of life.

The Minister urged the people to celebrate the festival in its true spirit by reaching out to the underprivileged



and marginalized sections of society. "Eid teaches us to share our happiness with others and to ensure that no one is left behind in moments of celebration," he remarked.

Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Department, Javid Ahmad Dar today extended heartfelt greetings to the people of Jammu and Kashmir on the auspicious occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr, wishing them peace, prosperity, happiness and well-being.

In his message, the Minister highlighted the profound spiritual and social significance of Eid-ul-Fitr, which marks the culmination of the holy month of Ramzan a period devoted to fasting, prayer, reflection and self-discipline. He said the festival is an occasion to express sincere gratitude to Almighty Allah for granting strength and resilience to observe the fasts and for guiding believers on the path of righteousness. Javid Dar noted that Eid-



ul-Fitr symbolizes the values of compassion, charity, forgiveness and brotherhood, which are essential for building a harmonious and progressive society.

He urged the people to imbibe these virtues in their daily lives and extend a helping hand to the underprivileged, thereby reinforcing the spirit of inclusiveness and social responsibility.

The Minister further said that festivals like Eid serve as a reminder of the importance of unity in diversity and provide an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of communal harmony and mutual respect among different sections of society. He called upon the people to celebrate the occasion with joy and simplicity while upholding the rich traditions of togetherness and cultural harmony.

Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology, Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, on Friday conveyed his heartfelt greetings to the people on the auspicious occasion of



Eid-ul-Fitr, saying that the festival inspires all to lead a peaceful life and work for the prosperity of society.

Describing Eid as a festival of gratitude and togetherness, the Minister said that it reflects the essence of patience, self-discipline and spiritual growth observed during the holy month of Ramadan.

Rana emphasized that the occasion serves as a reminder to strengthen bonds of harmony and extend support to the poor and underprivileged and share happiness with them.

Highlighting the values associated with the festival, the Minister also expressed hope that the festival would bring happiness, prosperity and well-being to all and further reinforce the values of unity and brotherhood across the region. "On this auspicious occasion, let us spread the feelings of love, kindness and compassion while working collectively for the betterment of our society," the Minister added.

Dr Jitendra Singh receives lifetime achievement award in diabetes

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, and MoS P.M.O, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh was today conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award in Medicine & Diabetes at the Chennai National Meet for, as the award citation describes, "his outstanding contribution as a distinguished medical professional, author and advocate for advancing Diabetes care and public health".

This is the second Lifetime Achievement Award for medical excellence conferred on Dr Jitendra Singh, the first one having been conferred in July 2024 at an International Meet held at Chennai.



The award today was conferred at MVCON 2026, organised by M.V. Diabetes Chennai founded in 1954 by Late Prof M. Viswanathan, popularly remembered as one of the founding fathers of Diabetology in India, along with his equally illustrious contemporaries like Prof M.M.S. Ahuja, Prof Sam J P Moses, Prof B.B. Tripathi and Prof V. Seshiah. Expressing gratitude on receiving the honour, Dr Jitendra Singh said the recognition carries special significance as it commemorates the legacy of Prof. M. Viswanathan, regarded as one of the founding fathers of diabetology and diabetes research in India.

He described it as a tribute not only to his own lifelong work but also to the rich tradition of medical excellence shaped by the first generation of post-independence physicians and their contemporary stalwarts, whose guidance combined clinical rigour with a deep sense of compassion for patients.

Recalling his formative years, Dr. Jitendra Singh shared that his years at Stanley Medical College, Chennai, played a defining role in shaping his professional journey. He said that the academic environment and mentorship he received instilled in him a lifelong commitment to learning and patient care.

Dr. Jitendra Singh described early grooming, right mentorship and imbibement of medical ethics as key pillars of a successful

medical career and added that, to gain public trust in medical practice, it is equally important for a doctor to be a good human being.

Reflecting on the evolution of medical science, Dr Jitendra Singh noted that he has witnessed the transition from an era when diagnosis relied primarily on clinical examination and patient history to the present landscape of advanced technologies and artificial intelligence, describing it as a uniquely enriching experience of being a witness to an amazing transition.

Dr. Jitendra Singh is a renowned diabetologist, academician and public representative with decades of experience in Medicine and Diabetes. A Professor of Medicine and Endocrinology by training, he has contributed extensively to Diabetes research, medical

literature, and public health awareness, with over five thousand published articles and several books to his credit. His pioneering work, including research on "Stress Diabetes in Kashmiri Migrants," has received international recognition. Over the years, he has been associated with leading national and global diabetes bodies and has contributed significantly to medical education and policy.

MVCON 2026 marks the inaugural edition of the annual scientific conference of M.V. Hospital for Diabetes and Prof. M. Viswanathan Diabetes Research Centre (MVDRC), Chennai. The chief organiser of MVCON 2026 is Dr Vijay Vishwanathan, a Diabetologist of national and international repute, whose work on 'Diabetes Foot Disease' is widely cited and acclaimed.

Expansion of PMBJKs to reduce healthcare costs

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Government launched the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janushadhi Pariyojana scheme to make quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all. Under the scheme, dedicated outlets known as Jan Aushadhi Kendras (JAKs) are opened across the country to provide medicines at rates that are about 50% to 80% cheaper than those of branded medicines.

As of 28.02.2026, a total of 18,646 Jan Aushadhi Kendras have been opened across the country under the scheme. With a view to augment the reach of Janaushadhi scheme to the citizens, Government has set a target of increasing the number of JAKs opened across the country to 25,000 by March 2027.

Under the scheme, incentive to JAK owners is given at a rate of 10% of monthly purchases of Janaushadhi products purchased from Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI), subject to a ceiling of ₹10,000 per month.

In addition, JAK owners are also provided incentive of up to ₹10,000 per month for maintaining requisite stock of 200 high-demand products. Further, a one-time special incentive of ₹2 lakh for setting up JAK is given for JAKs opened in the North-Eastern States, Himalayan areas, island territories and backward areas notified as Aspirational Districts by NITI Aayog, and to those JAKs that are opened by entrepreneurs of certain eligible categories, including ex-servicemen, women, divyangian and members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

With a view to ensure quality of medicines available at JAKs so that health of patients is not compromised, concrete mechanisms have been put in place to ensure continuous inspection, testing and standardisation, including the following:

Supply only from WHO Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) certified plants: Only plants that are certified as WHO-GMP compliant by

the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) after direct inspection are eligible for supply; distribution only after 100% pre-testing of all medicine batches: Samples are drawn from 100% of batches supplied at PMBI's warehouses for testing anonymously, and medicines are dispatched for supply to JAKs only after the quality test is passed; testing only at labs compliant with Good Laboratory Practices (GLP): Samples are tested only at labs accredited and periodically inspected by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) and, in addition, assessed by PMBI for GLP compliance.

During the past 11 years, total savings of ₹ 40,000 crores by way of reduced "Out-of-Pocket Expenditure" on medicines on account of use of Janaushadhi Products. This information was given by Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers, Anupriya Patel, in a written reply in the Lok Sabha today.

Rana highlights urban heritage, water sustainability at book launch event



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today attended the launching ceremony of coffee table book "Best of My City" at Jammu.

Being organized by Amar Ujala, the event was attended by the prominent citizens, officials and stakeholders from diverse sectors.

The Minister lauded the initiative, emphasizing that such publications serve as an important medium to showcase the cultural richness, historical legacy and developmental journey of cities. He commended Amar Ujala for curating a visually com-

prehensive and compelling portrayal of urban life, noting that the book reflects the spirit, diversity and aspirations of the people.

While appreciating the creative effort, Rana also used the occasion to draw attention to pressing environmental concerns, particularly the alarming decline in groundwater levels. He underscored the urgent need for collective action towards water conservation and sustainable resource management.

Stressing the importance of reviving traditional water systems, he called for renewed focus on the restoration and recharge of hand pumps, bore wells and other indigenous water sources.

Highlighting the government's proactive approach, the Minister reaffirmed its commitment towards strengthening the water infrastructure across Jammu & Kashmir.

Rana further emphasized that efficient implementation, coupled with rigorous monitoring, will be key to enhance service delivery and ensuring long-term water security for the people.

Reiterating Omar Abdullah led government's vision, he called for collaborative efforts among all stakeholders to achieve sustainable development and responsible resource management, ensuring a balanced and resilient future for coming generations.

Power shutdown

JAMMU: Chief Engineer, (Distribution) JPDCL Jammu has informed that the power supply to Rahyal, Patti, Rajinderpura, Gurah, Nagrota, Utterbehi and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 22 from 8 am to 3 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Nagrota, Sainik School, Kattal, Battal, IIT, Thanda Pani, Bamyal and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 23 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Sangaldan, Thatarka, Gool, Afcon, Banihal, Hospital, Old Nowgam, Bankoot, Gund, Hinjal, Sherbibi and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 23 and 24 from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Kalta, Chak, Mansar, Kalka, Sunari and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 23 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Trilokpur, Talab Tillo, Seora, Gajansoo and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 24 from 10 am to 5 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Badhori and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 22 and 23 from 9 am to 11 am.

Kissan Goshti on commercial floriculture held at Pallanwala

JAMMU: The Department of Floriculture, Parks & Gardens Jammu organized a one-day Kissan Goshti on Commercial Floriculture at village Pallanwala, Tehsil Khour, District Jammu under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme ATMA.

The programme, conducted under the overall guidance of Director Floriculture Vivek Modi, witnessed enthusiastic participation from a large number of farmers, reflecting a growing interest in floriculture as a viable and sustainable income-generating avenue.

The event was attended by Sunil Singh, Deputy Director/Nodal Officer CSS; Angrez Singh, Agriculture Extension Officer Pallanwala; Lakshmi, Assistant Floriculture Officer Jammu.

Addressing the gathering, Sunil Singh reaffirmed the Department's commitment supporting farmers through technical guidance and financial assistance under various Government schemes. He urged farmers to adopt high-yielding varieties and modern cultivation practices to enhance productivity and profitability.